

September 12, 2003

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, Second Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02478

Re: NStar Motion for Reconsideration and/or Clarification
D.T.E. 01-106-A

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

On August 28, 2003, Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, Commonwealth Electric Company and NStar Gas Company (collectively, "NStar") moved for reconsideration (in part), or, in the alternative, clarification, of the Department of Telecommunication's Order in D.T.E. 01-106-A (August 8, 2002) (the "Order"). On September 2, 2003, the Hearing Officer in this proceeding, Michael Killion, requested that parties file any comments on the NStar motion by September 12, 2003. Western Massachusetts Electric Company ("WMECO") is a party to this proceeding and submits its comments in this letter.

WMECO supports NStar's motion in full. The Department's Order resolved a number of areas pertaining to computer matching for low income eligibility but did not focus on implementation timelines. While certain timelines were provided (e.g., "approximately one year" to start the computer matching program (Order, p. 10)), considerable additional clarity might have been provided as to the timing of steps needed prior to the start of computer matching, and the timing of the second phase of the proceeding. As a result, WMECO has a number of questions that mirror those set forth in NStar's motion.

WMECO recognizes that the Department has scheduled an October 9, 2003 technical session to discuss certain aspects of the Order. However, it is unclear whether the scope of the implementation and timing questions are entirely appropriate for a technical session. The technical session would be most effective if the Department, in advance, addressed the reconsideration/clarification issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Very truly yours,

Stephen Klionsky

cc: Michael Killion, Hearing Officer
Service List (via e-mail)